

Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Highways Committee held at 6pm on Monday 17th January 2022
in the Windrush Room, The George Moore Community Centre

Those Present: Cllr A Roberts (Chairman and Minute taker), Cllrs B Hadley, M Macklin, N Randall, L Wilkins, B Wragge

Members of the Public: None

1. Apologies for absence: There were none.
2. Declarations of Interest: There were none.
3. To receive and approve the minutes of the Highways Committee held on 13th December 2021.
Proposed by Cllr Randall, seconded by Cllr Hadley and unanimously APPROVED

4. Matters Arising:

- (a) Pavement Railings – Bourton Day Nursery
- (b) Footpath between Rye Close and Tennis Courts

There had been no response from GCC Highways regarding these two items, however, Cllr, Roberts had recently written to the GCC Deputy Area Highway Manager to request an update on these and other outstanding matters. He had also proposed that a quarterly face-to-face meeting would be useful to discuss progress on highways issues.

(c) To note that the Clerk had sent a letter on 14th Dec requesting that CDC allocate Tourist Levy Monies to contribute towards parking patrols. The GCC Parking department have assessed the cost of additional hours to be £8293.41, although this may increase by 1% owing to CPI increases in the next financial year (i.e. approximately £8376.34)

(d) Request to CDC for relocation of dog waste bin in Rissington Road. No update received.

5. Police. As reported at the last Parish Council meeting, PC Webb, who had been assisting the Speedwatch group, was leaving the area and would be replaced by PC Francis Ward.
6. Footpaths. Cllr Wragge volunteered to renew the white paint highlighting the uneven areas on the Rye Close to tennis courts footpath.

A request for a progress update regarding repairs to the riverside footpath by Waterfront Tea Rooms and HBW2 (Primary School to Mousetrap Lane) had been included in Cllr Roberts' email to GCC Highways.

7. Traffic & Highways. In response to residents' concerns regarding speed and noise of traffic on Meadow Way, and at the request of Cllr Hodgkinson, the GCC Deputy Area Highway Manager had carried out an assessment of the road to determine the feasibility of installing a flashing speed activated sign known as a VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign). He had weighed up all the criteria regarding accident history, speed data, volume of traffic, and environmental weighting (e.g. a school or nursing home or shop along the road) and determined that there was not enough justification to install a VAS. However, he would write to the business park operator to see if vehicles could route via the Link Road. Cllr Roberts commented that routing via Pulhams and past Travis Perkins would more than double the distance for HGVs to travel from the Fosse Way to the main HGV depot and would be potentially be more dangerous due to the number of parked cars and the nursery on the Link road. These concerns had been passed on to Cllr Hodgkinson and GCC Highways.
8. Accessibility Audit: (Paper 1) To consider any actions required by the Highways Committee.
It was noted that most of the highlighted problems related to pavements, dropped kerbs, blocked pathways and uneven surfaces. Most fell under the remit of GCC Highways and some were on private land e.g. around the Chestnuts. It could take a long time to make changes and some

things would be outside the scope of the parish budget. However, it was understood that the report was still a work-in-progress and the author had been asked to include a summary and provide a prioritised list of potential village improvements. He had also been asked to make a presentation to the full Council and until that happens, the Committee felt that they could not take specific action at this stage.

9. Correspondence:

(a) To consider requests for an additional dog waste bin (Papers 2a & b).

It was noted that there was already a large dog waste bin at the place highlighted in the map in Paper 2b. Cllr Hadley had already replied to the correspondent and pointed this out.

Regarding the points raised in paper 2a, the Committee felt that the main problem of litter being dropped on Greystones land was inconsiderate ramblers and dog walkers. It was not clear how another dog bin would solve this problem as there were already three bins on Cemetery Lane (opposite the Lych Gate; opposite the football club footpath and one near the entrance to Cotswold Carp Farm). There was also one at the junction of Moor Lane and Roman Way and bins at or near Bourton Vale car park. It was felt that the Greystones management should first try to encourage safe litter disposal on site with information notices and if possible provide suitable bins themselves. Cllr Roberts offered to draft a suitable response for the Assistant Clerk to send to the correspondent. The 'No Fouling' signs would be checked and renewed where necessary.

(b) To consider further correspondence from GCC Highways and parishioner's request for grit bins at Bourton Hill (The Steeps) (Paper 3)

The Committee noted that the Steeps were not on the primary gritting route, although it might get gritted during prolonged severe winter weather. Nevertheless, the Committee's decision remains that it will review this again during the next financial year to consider siting and costs and whether some bins could be installed for winter 2022/23.

(c) To consider request for a grit bin on School Hill (Paper 4). As with Item 9b, this will have to be reviewed in the next financial year. The Assistant Clerk was requested to send a suitable response. The Committee wondered if a local business might consider sponsorship or assist with funding for a bin. Cllr Roberts would make enquiries.

10. Any Other Business (items to note only)

(a) The redundant bus shelter on Meadow Way was looking tatty as the shrink wrap was coming loose. Residents would like to know whether or not the structure is going to be taken away. The Committee expressed general disgust and frustration at the ridiculous situation whereby a bus stop and shelter had been installed, without consultation with the Parish Council, on a road where no bus route exists.

(b) The 'Except for Access' sign opposite Hackling's was pointing the wrong way and needed repositioning.

(c) A meeting with the TAG Traffic Group would be arranged soon to discuss the finer details of the proposals to limit traffic access to certain roads and, possible pay and display parking. Date TBD.

11. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 14th February 2022 at 6.00 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 18:46 hours.